

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12849 121019Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: NS MUTSU

1. A SPECIAL PANEL OF THE JAPAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR-POWERED SHIP MUTSU AFTER REPAIRS ARE UNDERTAKEN TO IT.

2. THROUGH THIS, IT SAID THAT THERE IS NEED TO SECURE VALUABLE EXPERIENCE IN RESPECT TO CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR-POWERED SHIPS THROUGH DOMESTIC TECHNOLOGY.

3. THE PANEL ON N-POWERED VESSELS, CHAIRED BY HISAO FUKUDA, CHAIRMAN OF MITSUI O.S.K. LINES, LTD., WAS SET UP LAST APRIL TO MAKE A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON JAPAN'S DEVELOPMENT STRUCTURE FOR N-POWERED VESSELS.

4. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PANEL CAME IN THE WAKE OF LAST AUTUMN'S RADIATION PROBLEM OF THE REACTOR ON THE MUTSU, JAPAN'S FIRST N-POWERED VESSEL.

5. THE PANEL, IN ITS RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED TO THE AEC THURSDAY, SAID THAT THERE IS NEED TO PROMOTE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED VERSIONS OF REACTORS FOR SHIP USE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TOKYO 12849 121019Z

PREPARE FOR FUTURE USE OF N-POWERED VESSELS FOR PRACTICAL USE.

6. AS FOR THE PLAN TO BUILD A SECOND N-POWERED SHIP, THE PANEL SAID THE PROJECT SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE GOVERNMENT TAKING THE INITIATIVE AS IN THE CASE OF THE MUTSU.

7. THIS REPRESENTED A SWITCH FROM THE PAST BASIC POLICY TO HAVE SECOND SHIP CONSTRUCTED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

8. THE PANEL ALSO RECOMMENDED THE JAPAN NUCLEAR SHIP DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, WHICH IS OPERATING THE MUTSU, SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED AND ITS TECHNOLOGICAL LEVEL RAISED.

9. IT SAID, HOWEVER, THERE IS NEED TO CONDUCT FURTHER STUDY IN THE FUTURE ON WHETHER THE AGENCY SHOULD ENGAGE IN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED TYPE REACTORS FOR USE IN VESSELS TO BE BUILT AFTER THE MUTSU.

10. THE PANEL SAID THERE IS NEED TO PUSH DEVELOPMENT OF REACTORS FOR SHIP USE WHICH ARE SAFE AND ECONOMICAL IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE ADVENT OF THE N-POWERED VESSEL ERA IN ZM FUTURE.

11. FOR THIS SAID, IT SAID THAT BASIC RESEARCHES ON USE OF N-POWERED SHIPS FOR PRACTICAL USE AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON REACTORS FOR SHIP USE SHOULD BE CONDUCTED EFFECTIVELY WITH THE GOVERNMENT TAKING THE INITIATIVE AND WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

12. THE AEC IS PLANNING TO INCORPORATE THE RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED BY THE PANEL INTO AN IMPROVED VERSION OF ITS BASIC PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF N-POWERED VESSELS WHICH IS NOW BEING DRAFTED.

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